

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families
Administration on Children, Youth and Families
Children's Bureau
Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS)

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Children in the Public Foster Care System Waiting to be Adopted
Fiscal Years 1999-2005

	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005
Alabama	1,013	1,162	1,288	1,476	1,546	1,599	2,128
Alaska	639	688	701	617	634	649	488
Arizona	3,014	2,340	2,507	1,649	1,676	2,099	2,375
Arkansas	847	817	808	981	983	940	984
California	9,448	12,004	7,682	6,300	5,437	4,851	4,121
Colorado	1,665	1,776	1,445	1,873	1,479	1,543	1,737
Connecticut	NA	NA	NA	1,034	1,305	1,382	1,312
Delaware	271	334	319	210	144	216	274
Dist of Col	NA	1,086	1,148	1,169	1,124	787	612
Florida	4,610	5,395	7,696	8,043	8,166	7,684	7,374
Georgia	2,696	2,860	4,185	3,184	2,474	2,507	2,370
Hawaii	616	693	731	708	764	919	878
Idaho	83	185	229	258	254	310	373
Illinois	14,676	10,727	8,963	6,193	3,780	3,432	3,347
Indiana	2,631	1,959	2,392	2,330	2,396	2,550	3,195
Iowa	1,039	1,016	1,119	1,263	1,131	1,139	1,265
Kansas	1,756	1,908	2,056	2,049	1,958	1,924	1,811
Kentucky	1,739	2,013	1,928	1,926	2,032	1,969	2,126
Louisiana	1,477	1,541	1,439	1,471	1,315	1,179	1,162
Maine	1,095	1,096	1,003	971	756	781	754
Maryland	2,803	3,073	3,299	2,933	2,500	2,202	1,954
Massachusetts	3,270	3,145	2,910	3,107	3,052	3,006	2,869
Michigan	8,494	7,742	7,815	6,752	6,968	6,486	7,061
Minnesota	2,047	1,774	1,661	1,548	1,918	1,795	1,553
Mississippi	581	520	510	803	810	914	857
Missouri	3,137	3,130	3,015	2,844	3,351	3,191	2,278
Montana	774	850	748	669	639	713	646
Nebraska	432	483	348	616	787	902	913
Nevada	NA	67	593	532	1,055	1,139	1,211
New Hampshire	153	207	198	193	175	239	272
New Jersey	4,251	4,852	5,174	5,041	5,206	5,092	4,525
New Mexico	876	822	668	514	583	631	705
New York	16,138	15,833	14,635	13,730	12,529	10,650	9,219
North Carolina	3,595	3,709	3,329	3,119	3,087	3,074	3,137
North Dakota	311	322	322	320	316	277	341
Ohio	3,473	4,438	5,914	5,616	5,099	4,814	4,348
Oklahoma	1,832	1,766	2,390	2,434	2,565	3,081	3,993
Oregon	3,000	3,150	2,680	2,503	3,164	3,302	3,441
Pennsylvania	4,881	5,203	5,240	4,201	4,032	3,996	3,679
Rhode Island	333	388	403	385	304	309	382

South Carolina	2,199	2,201	2,157	1,936	1,493	1,769	1,819
South Dakota	276	297	404	433	443	480	472
Tennessee	1,660	2,032	2,287	2,336	1,964	1,775	1,717
Texas	6,592	7,190	7,887	8,440	8,625	9,913	10,768
Utah	325	350	333	448	446	437	436
Vermont	360	397	303	419	367	267	265
Virginia	2,178	2,132	1,946	1,487	1,571	1,611	1,822
Washington	3,285	2,512	2,258	2,639	2,366	2,317	2,167
West Virginia	775	762	729	960	1,012	973	975
Wisconsin	1,012	1,038	1,640	1,667	1,707	1,341	1,280
Wyoming	100	92	104	101	90	71	74
Puerto Rico	522	NA	384	1,444	1,404	1,599	1,542
TOTAL	128,980	130,077	129,923	123,875	118,982	116,826	115,407

NOTE: There is no federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. For analytical purposes, the definition used in the table above includes children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older, whose parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. The number of children waiting to be adopted reported by individual States will likely differ somewhat from those in this table because State definitions vary according to State policies and practices.

Because AFCARS data are being continuously updated and cleaned, the numbers reported here may differ from data reported elsewhere. Furthermore, some numbers in this table may be lower than the numbers reported in a previous version of this table. Children were included in a previous table who only met the criteria of having had their parental rights terminated could have had them terminated at any time. Only those children with terminations prior to the end of the fiscal year of interest are included in the current table. This change and other minor changes made to the computer program provide a more accurate picture of the size and nature of the "waiting" population at the end of each fiscal year.

In contrast to the previous version of this table, FY 1998 data are not included because of the extensive amount of missing data for that year. However, as in the previous version of the table, jurisdictions with insufficient data ("NA") are not included in the totals. Therefore, the totals in this table may differ from those reported elsewhere which include estimates for missing data.